

Table 73.

Percentage distribution of final medical denials, by age, year of application, and reason for denial, 1992–2006

Year	Total		Impairment did not or is not expected to last 12 months	Impairment is not severe	Impairment does not cause severe functional limitations ^a	Able to do usual past work ^b	Able to do other type of work ^b	Other ^c
	Number	Percent						
All ages ^d								
1992	743,395	100.0	7.3	22.1	...	17.5	26.3	26.9
1993	939,357	100.0	6.6	21.2	...	15.4	24.8	31.9
1994	1,043,113	100.0	6.2	20.7	...	13.6	23.3	36.1
1995	996,529	100.0	6.2	19.7	...	12.4	22.4	39.2
1996	940,293	100.0	6.4	20.6	5.8	12.1	22.9	32.2
1997	740,882	100.0	6.8	16.7	16.2	13.0	25.1	22.1
1998	705,196	100.0	6.9	15.0	18.3	14.7	25.4	19.9
1999	692,968	100.0	6.7	14.0	19.1	15.6	24.6	20.2
2000	691,664	100.0	6.4	13.3	18.7	15.8	24.2	21.5
2001	729,351	100.0	6.1	13.2	18.2	16.6	26.1	19.8
2002	813,874	100.0	5.7	12.9	18.2	17.0	26.6	19.6
2003	870,150	100.0	5.1	12.1	18.7	17.1	27.3	19.7
2004	883,919	100.0	4.8	11.4	18.8	16.7	27.3	21.0
2005	831,930	100.0	4.6	11.2	18.2	16.0	27.1	22.9
2006	825,882	100.0	4.4	11.2	18.5	15.8	26.9	23.2
Under age 18								
1992	148,324	100.0	1.5	22.7	...	...	...	75.8
1993	240,803	100.0	1.3	21.8	...	...	...	76.9
1994	311,284	100.0	1.4	22.4	...	...	...	76.2
1995	306,390	100.0	1.3	21.8	...	...	...	76.9
1996	291,351	100.0	1.4	26.9	18.7	...	...	53.0
1997	195,799	100.0	1.6	19.1	61.4	...	...	18.0
1998	182,670	100.0	1.3	14.4	70.6	...	...	13.7
1999	182,495	100.0	1.1	13.3	72.4	...	...	13.2
2000	179,505	100.0	1.1	13.2	72.1	...	...	13.6
2001	182,131	100.0	1.1	14.0	73.0	...	...	11.9
2002	200,490	100.0	1.0	13.4	73.9	...	...	11.8
2003	214,307	100.0	0.9	12.3	75.9	...	...	10.9
2004	217,709	100.0	0.8	11.0	76.3	...	...	11.9
2005	201,654	100.0	0.9	11.1	75.1	...	...	13.0
2006	203,506	100.0	0.8	11.5	75.3	...	...	12.4

(Continued)

Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

Table 73.

Percentage distribution of final medical denials, by age, year of application, and reason for denial, 1992–2006—*Continued*

Year	Total		Impairment did not or is not expected to last 12 months	Impairment is not severe	Impairment does not cause severe functional limitations ^a	Able to do usual past work ^b	Able to do other type of work ^b	Other ^c
	Number	Percent						
<i>Aged 18–64</i>								
1992	594,906	100.0	8.8	21.9	...	21.8	32.8	14.7
1993	698,397	100.0	8.4	21.0	...	20.7	33.4	16.4
1994	731,456	100.0	8.3	20.0	...	19.4	33.2	19.1
1995	689,683	100.0	8.4	18.8	...	17.9	32.4	22.5
1996	648,031	100.0	8.6	17.8	...	17.5	33.3	22.8
1997	543,444	100.0	8.8	15.8	...	17.7	34.2	23.6
1998	518,568	100.0	8.9	14.9	...	19.7	34.4	22.0
1999	506,744	100.0	8.7	14.1	...	21.0	33.6	22.7
2000	508,790	100.0	8.4	13.2	...	21.3	32.9	24.3
2001	544,232	100.0	7.8	12.8	...	22.1	35.0	22.4
2002	610,386	100.0	7.3	12.7	...	22.5	35.4	22.1
2003	653,514	100.0	6.5	11.9	...	22.7	36.4	22.5
2004	664,266	100.0	6.1	11.4	...	22.1	36.4	24.0
2005	628,643	100.0	5.8	11.2	...	21.1	35.9	26.0
2006	621,018	100.0	5.6	11.0	...	20.9	35.7	26.7

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Disability Research File, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Data for the initial and reconsideration levels are current through August 2007. Data for the hearing level or above are current through September 2007.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the numbers and percentages will change over time.

Applications with a medical decision may be pending a final nonmedical decision or subsequently denied for nonmedical reasons.

Includes decisions for SSI-only applications and applications for both Social Security and SSI. Does not include Social Security-only applications.

... = not applicable.

a. Used only for applicants under age 18. Category effective for final determinations made August 1996 or later.

b. Used only for applicants aged 18 or older.

c. Applicant provided insufficient evidence, failed to cooperate, failed to follow prescribed treatment, did not want to continue development of the claim, or returned to substantial work before disability could be established. For final determinations made August 1996 or before for applicants under age 18, also includes claims denied because individual functional assessment showed impairment not of comparable severity.

d. Includes applicants aged 65 or older.

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